IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP



Bill Northey, Secretary of Agriculture

Updated April 2013

2013 Changes to the *Iowa Code* affecting Commercial Pesticide Applicators

The 2013 Iowa legislature passed <u>House File 458</u> which includes changes affecting commercial pesticide applicators required to provide proof of financial responsibility. This change was effective March 28, 2013:

Evidence of Financial Responsibility Required by Commercial Applicators:

(HF458, Sec. 10. Section 206.13, Code 2013 is amended)

The amount of the evidence of financial responsibility as provided for in this section shall be not less than one hundred thousand dollars for property damage and public liability insurance, each separately, or liability insurance with limits of one hundred thousand dollars per occurrence and three hundred thousand dollars annual aggregate.

Implementation of the 2013 update is planned as follows:

Effective 3/28/2013, commercial pesticide applicator licensees will be required to provide proof of financial responsibility of not less than \$100,000 property damage and \$100,000 public liability, each separately, or liability insurance with limits of \$100,000 per occurrence and \$300,000 annual aggregate, in order for a license to be issued. Proof of financial responsibility may consist of a surety bond, liability insurance or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a financial institution.

2012 Changes to the *Iowa Code* affecting Commercial, Public, and Private Pesticide Applicators

The following items were updated by the 2012 Iowa legislature, effective 7/1/2012.

Implementation of 2012 updates are being made as follows:

Commercial, Public, and Private Pesticide Applicator Certifications:

(SF2311, Sec. 120, Section 206.5, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2011, was amended)

The provision for one-year certification fees has been removed. Effective July 1, 2012, any fees submitted in payment for a commercial, public, or private pesticide applicator certification will need to be a three-year fee.

<u>New Certification.</u> Applications submitted on or after 7/1/2012 will require payment of the three-year certification fee. One-year certification and fees will no longer be available.

<u>Recertification.</u> Currently certified pesticide applicators who are in the midst of a three-year qualification cycle and paying one-year fees, will be eligible to renew one-year fees until the existing cycle expiration date.

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Example 1: An individual who began a certification cycle during the spring of 2012 will be eligible for one-year certification renewal options until the existing cycle expires on 12/31/2014. Example 2: An individual who began a certification cycle during 2011 and renewed prior to 12/31/2011, will be eligible for a one-year certification renewal option until the existing cycle expires on 12/31/2013.

Example 3: An individual who began a certification cycle during 2010 will have a cycle expiration date of 12/31/2012. That individual will be eligible only for a three-year certification renewal to be paid at the time of the 2013 renewals.

Recertification by Exam or Continuing Instructional Course (CIC). Upon initial certification the commercial or public private applicator enters a three-year qualification cycle. Certification is renewable by completion of an educational program consisting of either testing every third year or attending approved CICs. To fulfill this requirement, commercial or public applicators must pass an examination each third year following initial certification <u>or</u> may elect to attend two hours of CIC courses each year.

<u>Important note</u>: The fee changes do not affect CIC training requirements. If an applicator is choosing to renew certification by training, 2 hours of approved CIC training is needed for each year of the certification cycle INCLUDING the first year certified. If one or more years of CIC are missed, the applicator is required to complete certification exams for renewal of the certification.

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